

# MARKET BULLETIN

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## SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONER'S SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2023

PROGRAM SET FOR JULY 22-28

The South Carolina Commissioner's School for Agriculture summer program is now seeking students for 2023.

A partnership between Clemson University and the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, this summer program strives to provide challenging and enriching college-based experiences for a limited number of rising 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students interested in agriculture and natural resources.

Since 2004, the South Carolina Commissioner's School for Agriculture has served more than 600 students representing nearly every South Carolina county and 15 states.

With a focus on hands-on experiences and activities, the week's agenda demonstrates the vast opportunities that exist within these fields. The program provides an academically focused curriculum that integrates subject matter from a variety of related disciplines, and includes farm visits, leadership activities, and more.

Participants are able to experience firsthand college student residential life while living in the dorms during the 7-day camp. Throughout the week participants also explore the classrooms, laboratories, field, and forest facilities utilized by Clemson's academic programs. Connections are made with future faculty, advisors, and a variety of state-wide industry leaders including the leadership of the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

The South Carolina Commissioner's School for



Students at the 2022 Commissioner's School for Agriculture learned about forestry, animal agriculture, and much more.



Agriculture application is live now. Applications are due by April 12, 2023.

Students will be able to choose among several emphasis areas: Livestock Production, Forestry and Natural Resources, and Plant Science.

South Carolina resident tuition is \$500, while non-resident tuition is \$800.

To find out more about the program and to apply, visit [clemson.edu/cafls/sccsa](https://clemson.edu/cafls/sccsa).

### COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



HUGH E. WEATHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

## INITIAL THOUGHTS ON THE 2023 FARM BILL

For those of us engaged in the legislative process, it's that time again: Every five years, Congress gets to work on a bundle of subject-specific "titles" related to agriculture spending, programs, and priorities, and related areas like nutrition assistance and conservation policy, otherwise known as the Farm Bill. The fact that they don't do it every year should tell you just how involved and sometimes contentious the Farm Bill can be. This year will be no exception.

If there's one thing I know about farmers, it's that they don't like dramatic change for change's sake. In general, I urge Congress to take a measured approach in 2023.

Maintaining and improving crop insurance programs is a priority. The Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs have allowed many South Carolina farmers to keep farming despite some rocky times in recent history. From the Great Recession to trade wars to the pandemic, there have been a lot of other pressures on bottom lines, but crop insurance helps farmers ride out some market uncertainty and, for the consumer, reduce the volatility in the food supply chain. Whether Congress slightly modifies these programs or alters them significantly, we do need these protections.

I also support the continued efforts to help

specialty crop producers navigate risk in the same way we do commodity producers. That may also include more funding for specialty crop research and promotion through the Specialty Crop Block Grant program, as well as simplifying and broadening the definition of what is a specialty crop. Growing specialty crops helps farmers diversify their farming income and navigate changes in markets and consumer interest, and it also helps our country strengthen our food security. I hope our federal leaders will keep these considerations in mind as they write the Farm Bill. It can be a balancing act between the "commodity title" support and specialty crop development incentives.

I'll have more to say about the 2023 Farm Bill as the legislative version of making sausage unfolds. Rest assured that we'll be in frequent contact with Senators Graham and Scott, as well as our representatives in Washington, through the development process. I thank them for looking out for the interests of South Carolinians.

Before I close, here's a reminder. Please think of any high school-aged students in your life who are interested in agriculture, and suggest they take a look at the South Carolina Commissioner's School for Agriculture.

*Hugh E. Weathers*



UPCOMING EVENTS

**SC Beekeepers Association Spring Conference**  
February 24 – 25 • 10 am – 5 pm  
Join us for "Show Me the HONEY!" — a 2-day opportunity to learn anything and everything about that sticky stuff! Come hear industry experts share how they manage and grow their honey operations and market their honey. Conference will include a variety of presentations and discussions, workshops, a Honey Show, and Vendor Fair. Keynote Speakers include: Bob Binney, Stephen Coy, and Marina Marchese. Registration is now OPEN online.  
**SIMT Florence-Darlington Technical College**  
**1951 Pisgah Road, Florence**  
Contact: SC Beekeepers Association  
[president@scstatebeekeepers.com](mailto:president@scstatebeekeepers.com) • 864-430-3393  
[scstatebeekeepers.com](http://scstatebeekeepers.com)

**Introduction to Beekeeping Workshop**  
February 25 • 8:30 – 11 am  
This workshop will introduce attendees to beekeeping. It is recommended for those thinking of starting beekeeping, beginning beekeepers, and those who are just fascinated by bees! We will explore the workings of the hive, seasonal tasks, biology, honey harvesting, diseases and pests, as well as what equipment is needed to start. This workshop is included in our 2-day spring conference registration OR may be purchased separately as a stand-alone workshop. See website for more details.  
**SIMT Florence-Darlington Technical College**  
**1951 Pisgah Road, Florence**  
Contact: SC Beekeepers Association  
[president@scstatebeekeepers.com](mailto:president@scstatebeekeepers.com) • 864-430-3393  
[scstatebeekeepers.com](http://scstatebeekeepers.com)

**Cork Shuckin' Festival**  
February 25 • 10 am – 6 pm  
Paying homage to the Lowcountry, we feature an oyster roast with local craft brews and oysters— with a portion of the proceeds going to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Oysters will be provided by Old Man Oyster Company; other food trucks include A Boy and His Dogs, Lib's Diner, Fed Up Truck LLC, Callie's Hot Little Biscuit and Miss Katie's Sweets LLC!  
**Deep Water Vineyard**  
**6775 Bears Bluff Road, Charleston**  
843-559-6867  
[deepwatervineyard.com](http://deepwatervineyard.com)

**South Carolina Christmas Tree Association 2023 Winter Meeting**  
February 25 • 1:30 – 5 pm  
The meeting will be very informal with a Grower Tree Talk led by Tom Sawyer and ample opportunity for members to interact with fellow members about their operations and experiences. An update on the Historical Project will be presented along with a short business meeting. After adjournment, members will travel to the Oceanview Seafood Restaurant for dinner. There will be no charge for registration for members or attendees from affiliate state associations. Non-member farms are required to pay a \$50 registration fee. This fee will be credited toward 2023 membership dues if the attendee farm chooses to join the association in the first month of attendance.  
**SC Farm Bureau**  
**724 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce**  
Contact: Steve Penland  
[slpenland69@gmail.com](mailto:slpenland69@gmail.com) • 803-366-7605  
[scchristmastrees.org](http://scchristmastrees.org)

**Sunday Oyster Roast Series**  
February 26 • 12 – 5 pm  
Bring Your Own Shuckers Oyster Roasts series on our four-acre field alongside the Noisette Creek! These ticketed Sunday events will offer all-you-can-eat oysters from Lowcountry Oyster Co along with live music, beer, and Firefly cocktails for purchase. Adult: \$25, Child: \$12.50. Children two and under free.  
**Firefly Distillery**  
**4201 Spruill Avenue, North Charleston**  
[info@fireflyvodka.com](mailto:info@fireflyvodka.com) • 843-557-1405  
*Tickets: [fireflydistillery.com/news-events/sunday-oyster-roast-series](http://fireflydistillery.com/news-events/sunday-oyster-roast-series)*

**Spring Field Trips**  
It's now time to start booking those Spring field trips! Calendar space available for March, April and May. Schools, churches and groups of 20 or more. Call for more information and to reserve your spot. If no one answers, please leave a message and we'll get back to you.  
**Old McCaskills Farm**  
**377 Cantey Lane, Rembert**  
803-432-9537  
[facebook.com/OldMcCaskillsFarm](https://facebook.com/OldMcCaskillsFarm)

SALES & AUCTIONS

**Claxton's Auction**  
February 18 & 25 • 11 am – 5 pm  
Every Saturday. Equine, cows, sheep, goats, pigs, camelots, ratites, poultry, and small animals.  
**18627 Lowcountry Hwy, Ruffin**  
Contact: William Claxton  
843-909-4285 • [wlcjr@yahoo.com](mailto:wlcjr@yahoo.com)

SCDA State Farmers Markets

SOUTH CAROLINA  
STATE FARMERS MARKET

3483 Charleston Highway  
West Columbia, SC 29172  
803-737-4664

GREENVILLE  
STATE FARMERS MARKET

1354 Rutherford Road  
Greenville, SC 29609  
864-244-4023

PEE DEE  
STATE FARMERS MARKET

2513 W. Lucas Street  
Florence, SC 29501  
843-665-5154

VISIT  
AGRICULTURE.SC.GOV

Click on the State Farmers Markets  
button for more information about  
each location

SC Market Bulletin Subscription & Renewal Form

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☐ Paper: \$15 / 1 year

☐ Paper & Electronic: \$20 / 1 year

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☐ This is a gift

☐ Electronic: \$10 / 1 year

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2/16/23

Market Bulletin Office

Monday – Friday • 8 AM – 4:30 PM

803-734-2536 • [marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov](mailto:marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov)

[agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin](http://agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin)

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Certified SC Program

803-734-2207

Consumer Protection

803-737-9700

Fruit & Vegetable Inspection

803-737-4588

Fruit & Vegetable  
Market News

803-737-4261

Hemp Farming Program

803-734-8339

Livestock & Grain  
Market News

803-737-4491

Market News Recording

803-737-5900

Metrology Laboratory

803-253-4052

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POLICIES FOR ADVERTISING

For our full policies, please visit:  
[agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin-policies](http://agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin-policies)

Only ads pertaining to the production of agricultural products and related items are published. Ads are accepted for South Carolina items, even if the seller lives out of state, provided the item is in state at the time the ad is published and at the time of sale.

Ads are published free of charge and in good faith. The *Market Bulletin* reserves the right to edit and verify ads but assumes no responsibility for their content.

Ads cannot be accepted from agents, dealers, or commercial businesses, including real estate. Sealed bids, legal notices, or consignment sales are not accepted.

SUBMITTING ADS

No matter the submission method, submissions must include the advertiser's name, complete address with zip code and county, and phone number with area code. While we don't publish the address, we need this information for our records. Do not use all capital letters.

• **Online:** Go to [agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin](http://agriculture.sc.gov/market-bulletin). Select "Submit Market Bulletin Ad" and complete the form. If you include your email address, you will receive an automated reminder for a renewal.

• **Mail:** SC Market Bulletin, PO Box 11280, Columbia, SC 29211. You must use 8.5 × 11 inch paper.

• **Email:** Send ads to [marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov](mailto:marketbulletin@scda.sc.gov). Put the words "Market Bulletin ad" in the subject line.

• **Fax:** 803-734-0659

The deadline for submitting ads and notices is noon on Tuesday of the week **before** the publication date.

NEXT AD DEADLINE

FEBRUARY 21 • 12:00 PM

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FARM LABOR

NOTICES ARE ACCEPTED FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK ONLY AND NOT FOR HOUSEWORK, NURSING, OR COMPANIONSHIP NEEDS.

**LIME SPREADING**  
specialize in TN, call for prices  
Drake Kinley  
Anderson  
864-353-9628

**LAND CLEARING**  
logging clean up, stumping/  
raking, building pads, ditch  
maint, licensed & insured,  
serving all of SC  
Ben Leonard  
Pickens  
864-901-8155

**FORESTRY MULCHING & CLEARING**  
clear land w/mulcher or  
excavator, small to lrg tracts  
Dakota Hollman  
Lexington  
803-687-6382

**LIGHT TRACTOR WORK**  
incl bush hogging, discing,  
cut up & removal of downed  
trees, light landscaping  
John Tanner  
Lexington  
803-422-4714

**TRACTOR WORK**  
frt end ldr, dirt blade, bush  
hog, chain saw trees, back  
hoe work w/in 20 mi  
David Wannamaker  
Calhoun  
803-682-2117

**FORESTRY MULCHING**  
fields, pasture, roads, trails,  
ponds, landscape, insured  
Clark Curry  
York  
864-231-1513

**PASTURE MGMT SERV**  
spray weeds, treat fire ants,  
fert & lime, plant pastures,  
Fescue, Ryegrass, Bermuda,  
Bahia  
Kenny Mullis  
Richland  
803-331-6612

**FORESTRY MULCHING**  
land clearing, wildlife mgmt,  
ditches, grading, pond digging  
Jay Lowder  
Clarendon  
803-473-0646

**CLEARING**  
grading, stumping, demo,  
hvy disking, Rome disc-dozer  
Keith Peterson  
Chester  
803-633-4015

**PECAN CRACKING**  
& shelling serv, 50¢/lb for  
cracking only; 85¢/lb for both  
Richard Naumann  
Richland  
803-546-4603

**ONSITE MOBILE WELDING**  
& fabrication, farm & hvy  
equip, fences, gates, etc  
Garrett Stephens  
Greenville  
828-405-2176

**CUSTOM SPRIGGING**  
CB & Tifton 85 Bermuda  
grasses, statewide, lrg & sm  
jobs, call for more info  
Timmy Benton  
Colleton  
843-908-3222

**DOZER/TRACKHOE WORK**  
build & repair ponds, demo,  
tree removal, land clearing,  
roads, free est  
James Hughes  
Greenwood  
864-227-8257

**AG FENCE INSTALL**  
serving the Upstate, fixed  
knot woven wire, barb, HT  
elec, board, hyd post driving  
Taylor Chappell  
Abbeville  
864-276-8906

**FENCES INSTALLED**  
per your specs, free est  
Bruce Thomas  
Dorchester  
843-636-1699

**FORESTRY MULCHING & CLEARING**  
pine site prep, mulching,  
land clearing, ditching/  
drainage, ponds, road work  
Andy Anderson  
Florence  
843-862-1080

**PECAN CRACKING SERV**  
also tumbled & blown, 50¢/  
lb; whole nuts, cracked  
nuts, halves, \$3+  
Marc Renwick  
Newberry  
803-271-8691

FARM LAND

FARM LAND MUST BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY THE OWNER, NOT AN AGENT. TRACTS MUST BE AT LEAST 5 ACRES UNDER CULTIVATION, TIMBER, OR PASTURE. OUT-OF-STATE OWNERS—NOT REAL ESTATE AGENTS—MAY NOW SUBMIT ADS FOR LAND IN SC.

**WANT LAND TO LEASE**  
for hunting, Darlington  
or surrounding Co, have  
equip to repair & maintain  
property  
Ray Sealey  
Darlington  
843-409-1717

**13.36A WOODED**  
on big creek, Greenville Co,  
near Fork Shoals Rd & W  
Georgia Rd, \$250,000 w/  
survey  
John Cooper  
Greenville  
843-693-9099

**WANT FIELDS TO LEASE**  
in Darlington &  
surrounding cos for  
2023/2024 dove season  
Robert Edwards  
Newberry  
803-920-6479

**WANT 5+A PASTURE**  
Fairfield, Chester, York,  
Lancaster, Union cos  
Russell Brown  
Fairfield  
803-718-0911

**WANT 5+A**  
suitable for livestock,  
Fairfield, Kershaw Co  
Mason Motley  
Richland  
803-754-3224

FRESH PRODUCE

PRODUCE MUST BE RAW AND NON-PROCESSED. RAW MILK, BUTTER, AND CHEESE PRODUCTS MUST BE PERMITTED BY THE SC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL. AN EGG LICENSE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR ON-FARM POINTS OF SALE.

**PECANS**  
comp shelled, \$12/lb; cracked  
& blown, \$4.50/lb; in-shell, \$3/  
lb, p-up in Newberry or Irmo  
Russell Shealy  
Newberry  
803-944-7316

**BROWN & WHT EGGS**  
\$2/dz; pecans in the shell,  
\$2/lb  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

**PECANS**  
in shell, 10 lb bags, \$1/lb;  
clean shelled, \$7/lb  
Jordan Harris  
Calhoun  
843-709-3239

**BLUE RIBBON SUGARCANE**  
\$65/100 stalks  
FC Noles  
Barnwell  
803-383-4066

**CHICKEN EGGS**  
farm fresh, \$3/dz, \$4/18  
Rose Roof  
Lexington  
803-315-7307

GOATS / LLAMAS / SHEEP

**1 Y/O KIKO BUCK**  
100% reg & DNA, \$300  
George Phillips  
Williamsburg  
843-992-1964

**JACOB RAMS**  
7 m/o, 4 & 2 horned, \$250+;  
50/50 Jacob/Finn rams, 1-2  
y/o, 4 horned, blk, \$280  
Allan Clark  
Abbeville  
864-314-5226

**DORPER/KATAHDIN RAM**  
2½ y/o, proven breeder, lrg,  
blk/wht, \$275 or trade  
Tammy Hodge  
Sumter  
803-983-5041

**2 NGN DWARF BILLIES**  
both wht, 2 y/o proven  
breeder, \$100; 2 m/o, \$150  
Skip Price  
Lexington  
803-465-1484

**NGN DWARF KIDS**  
yrlgs, adults, nannies &  
billies, UTD CDT, \$125-200  
Diana Melton  
Clarendon  
803-464-2992

**KIKO GOATS**  
kids, yrlgs, & adults,  
\$75-250  
Jonathan Hardy  
Richland  
803-730-8551

**FB FAINTING GOATS**  
12 w/o, \$250/M, \$300/F  
Elaine Cowee  
Berkeley  
843-861-0377

**ANGORA GOATS**  
mature proven buck, \$200;  
wethers, \$175; pregnant  
does, \$250  
Emily Simon  
Lancaster  
803-627-7850

**¾ BOER ¾ MILK GOATS**  
6 m/o billies & nannies, \$200 ea  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589

**5 PB NZ KIKO GOATS**  
CDT, Famacha, reg not incl,  
\$300 ea  
Jane S Cooper  
Greenville  
843-693-1949

**PB NUBIAN GOATS**  
M & F, \$200-400  
Aaron Shirey  
Lexington  
803-413-2974

**MALE LAMBS**  
LT 1 y/o, 100 lbs, \$150  
Ottis Wagner  
York  
704-609-4912

HAY & GRAIN

**COW HAY**  
\$40-60, in Dalzell  
Jackson Lowder  
Lee  
803-459-2358

**HQ ALFALFA HAY**  
\$20/bale; 30% Alfalfa/70%  
Orchard mix hay, \$16/bale,  
cash only  
Chris Banks  
Richland  
219-863-4069

**SQ WHEAT STRAW**  
\$7 ea; rnd Sudan grass &  
millet, \$40/bale; feed oats,  
55 gal barrel, \$50  
Melvin Barr  
Pickens  
864-360-5176

**'22 SQ HAY**  
GTQ, CQ, shed kept, \$3/bale  
Stan Suchecki  
Laurens  
864-207-1753

**4×5 NET WRAP CB**  
\$60; 4×5 string wrap CB,  
\$50; all kept outside; 200 sq  
CB bales, barn kept, \$7  
Bradley Hightower  
Orangeburg  
803-682-1865

**22 BALES OF HQ HAY**  
4×5 net wrap, shed kept,  
\$80/bale  
Carlisle Kinard  
Bamberg  
803-267-5762

**'22 CRAB GRASS HAY**  
1000 lb rnd bales, twine  
tied, \$40  
Joe Johnson  
Berkeley  
843-567-7774

**'22 NET WRAP 4×5 CB**  
limed & fert, stored outside,  
in Barnwell, \$60/bale  
Alfred Bush  
Aiken  
803-522-3763

**'22 4×5 HQ CB**  
net wrap, fert & lime, NR, shed  
kept, \$75, del avail for fee  
Eddie Chavis  
Barnwell  
803-671-3108

**'22 4×5 RND CB**  
net wrap, NR, well fert,  
stored outside indiv on  
pallets, \$70/bale  
Eddie West  
Aiken  
803-507-8205

**1<sup>ST</sup> QAUL HORSE HAY**  
20/22, \$8/sq  
Ike Hardwick  
Darlington  
843-858-2103

**'22 HQ SQ CB**  
del avail, \$9.50/bale  
Ryan Lindler  
Lexington  
803-603-2484

**NET WRAP CB**  
barn kept, \$70 ea  
Clayton Leaphart  
Lexington  
803-892-2642

**'22 SQ OAT STRAW BALES**  
clean, \$4.50 ea  
Tom Fink  
Lexington  
803-622-4678

**'22 4×5 RND CB**  
twine, stored, \$55; field, \$40  
Michael F Hallman  
Lexington  
803-657-5526

**WHEAT STRAW**  
sq, \$5/bale  
Jason Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-2753

**WHEAT STRAW**  
4×5 net wrap, \$40 ea  
Richard Knight  
Kershaw  
803-427-6440

**25 BALES OATS HAY**  
string wrap, shed kept,  
\$60/bale  
Harroll Stockman  
Newberry  
803-924-7878

**'22 ALFALFA**  
dairy qual, 3×4×8, 1600 lbs,  
\$380; 3×3×8, \$180, 850 lbs,  
cash sales  
Chris Roux  
Cherokee  
864-906-5471

**'22 4×54" RND CQ CB**  
net wrap, well fert, shed  
kept, \$65, no del  
Rickey Meetze  
Lexington  
803-892-3573

**SQ CB**  
\$8 ea; Rye straw, \$6 ea; all  
barn kept  
Howard McCartha  
Lexington  
803-312-3316

HOGS / PIGS

**PIGLETS**  
Kunekune Duroc mix, B11/7,  
uncut males, 1 red & 1 tan w/  
blk spots, handled daily, \$100 ea  
Paige Hicks  
Aiken  
803-645-3933

**YORKSHIRE PIGS**  
50 lbs, \$100 ea  
George Phillips  
Williamsburg  
843-992-1964

**KUNE KUNE M PIGLETS**  
8 w/o, \$75  
Julie Moore  
Chester  
803-371-4808

**15 M/O BOAR**  
600 lbs, photo avail, \$200  
Robert Smith  
Calhoun  
803-707-3309

**FB BERKSHIRE PIGS**  
7 cut males, \$150 ea  
J Painter  
Spartanburg  
864-641-9855

**RED WATTLE PIGLETS**  
8-12 w/o, \$100-125  
Ottis Wagner  
York  
704-609-4912

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual

Grown in SC

magazine is

here!

Read it online now

at [agriculture.sc.gov/](http://agriculture.sc.gov/)

magazine or grab a

printed version at

upcoming SCDA

events this year.

MISCELLANEOUS

**7-8' RND CEDAR POSTS**  
\$4-7 ea; cedar lumber,  
\$2-3/bdft  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

**USEABLE REAR TIRES**  
for farm tractors &  
backhoes, \$40+  
Clint Boyd  
York  
803-487-4209

**RND CEDAR POSTS**  
cut to var sizes, 4-10" dia,  
6-12' L, \$6-\$12 ea, depend  
on size; cut 4x4, \$2/bdft  
Douglass Britt  
McCormick  
864-391-3334

**USED NURSERY POTS**  
1 gal, 15¢; 2 gal, 25¢; 3 gal,  
40¢; 5 gal, 65¢; 7 gal, 90¢  
Brian Gray  
Greenville  
864-908-9777

**'67 JD LAWN TRACTOR**  
mod 110-112, deck w/metal  
rnd fenders & seat, \$675  
Greg Alewine  
Lee  
803-229-2322

**HDWD LUMBER**  
air dried 6 mon, 1x6x8' poplar  
boards, \$20 ea; 1x8x8' red &  
white oak boards, \$35 ea  
R Anderson  
Greenville  
864-234-2918

**CARPENTER BEE TRAPS**  
sold & shipped in lots of 5,  
\$85 incl ship  
Bill Timmerman  
Aiken  
803-640-6265

**RADIATOR**  
for JD 6620 combine, \$300  
Otto Williamson  
Williamsburg  
843-372-2692

**(2) 6000 LBS TRL AXLES**  
w/drum brakes, \$300; JD  
LA115 riding mwr, w/42"  
deck, GC, \$300  
Steve Vernet  
Spartanburg  
864-363-5800

**GOURDS**  
for Purple Martin bird  
houses or crafting needs,  
med, \$4; lrg, \$6  
Glen Clamp  
Lexington  
803-673-8013

**'16 JD Z997 ZERO TURN  
MWR**  
973 hrs, GRC, JD annually  
maintained, \$11,500  
Roger Brant  
Spartanburg  
864-365-8319

**DSL WELDER/GEN**  
AC/DC, Miller Bobcat 250D,  
low hrs, 50' of leads, \$5500  
Stanley Taylor  
Chester  
803-789-5236

**55 GAL FG DRUMS**  
metal, \$20 ea; plastic  
drums, 30 & 55 gal, solid  
tops, \$15 & \$20 ea; 275 gal  
port tow tanks, \$50 ea  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589

**90 GAL GATOR BED SPRYR**  
JD LP20853, \$600  
Cal Norris  
Edgefield  
864-378-2693

**WOODMIZER DESIGN  
SAW MILL**  
hyd drive & lift, GWC, \$6500;  
produce cooler, 7'x8', \$1800  
Danny Hege  
Barnwell  
803-793-4187

**6'-25'1x6" CEDAR LUMBER**  
cedar posts & utility poles,  
\$1-2.50/ft  
James Burns  
Laurens  
864-918-6308

**FULL CUT LIUMBER**  
(61) 2x6x8, (65) 1x6x10, (3)  
2x4x8, air dry, \$400 obo  
Randy Blackmon  
Lancaster  
803-804-2196

**DEHORNING TOOLS**  
& dehorning, hoof cleaning,  
more, \$25 ea or \$90 for all  
George Whittle  
Edgefield  
803-275-3729

**RADIATOR**  
for LH 715 combine, \$300;  
new 5hp elec motor, bought  
for grain auger, will work  
w/anything, \$800  
Jason Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-2753

**'19 KUBOTA DSL ZERO TURN**  
LN, 50 hrs, mod ZD 1011,  
\$13,250  
Jerry Comeaux  
Spartanburg  
864-992-3869

**2 LRG BASKETS**  
for cotton/corn, \$60 each;  
blksmith flatter & hot cut,  
\$100 ea; foot aze, \$65  
R Long  
Newberry  
803-924-9039

**SAND CLAY & TOPSOIL**  
5 ton load, \$60/sand clay;  
\$80 /topsoil, del w/in 20 mi;  
rock or sand, \$2/mi del  
David Wannamaker  
Calhoun  
803-682-2117

**USED 5V TIN**  
11 pcs, 8-11', in GC, \$20 for all  
Simon Buzhardt  
Saluda  
803-240-8643

**BUMPER GRILL**  
for Ferguson or 8 N, \$100  
Marshall Oshields  
Union  
864-426-8022

**SEED POPULATION MON**  
Vanguard VW-5500, 1-16r,  
used 1 season, \$1200; (2)  
20.8x38 tires, \$300  
Joey Gunter  
Lexington  
803-920-1605

**2 SADDLES**  
cloth & leather, \$250; more  
Paul Kicidis  
Union  
864-429-6112

**OLD COMP FARM BELL**  
old, #3, \$350; xl farm bell,  
w/wheel, comp, \$1200; #20  
hash pots, \$200 ea; #15,  
\$150; more  
Perry Masters  
Greenville  
864-561-4792

**2 DUAL TRACTOR TIRES**  
& rims w/7 clamps, 18.4x38  
clamp on, \$600  
William Dozier  
Barnwell  
803-671-1393

**HOMELITE SHPIRRIG PUMP**  
new, \$275; lot hose, \$75; Rain-  
bird irrig sprinklers, \$20 ea  
George Schwab  
York  
803-493-8021

**16x9-38 BKT TRACTOR TIRE**  
8 ply, new, \$675  
Edward Klugh  
Greenwood  
864-374-3162

**CATTLE HEAD GATE**  
self-locking, \$350 obo  
James Brice  
Fairfield  
803-581-3482

**CEDAR MULCH**  
\$50/p-up load; rnd 7' cedar  
fence posts, \$3 each; cedar  
poles, \$5 ea/8', \$7 ea/10' & \$9  
ea/12'; more  
Andy Morris  
Newberry  
803-276-2670

**AC SHEEP CLIPPERS**  
professional, LN, \$75  
Jimmy Wells  
Anderson  
864-437-9608

**SEMEN TANK**  
EC w/Ang semen &  
embryos, call or email for  
inventory, \$1000  
Bruce Stuart  
Aiken  
803-645-0378

**HUSQVARNA RIDING  
LAWN MWR**  
42" cut, \$700 obo; JD D110  
mwr, for parts, 19.5hp, no  
deck, motor runs good,  
\$300 obo  
Otis Hembree  
Spartanburg  
864-316-1222

PLANTS & FLOWERS

ADS ARE NOT ACCEPTED FROM COMMERCIAL NURSERIES, WHICH ARE DEFINED AS HAVING ANNUAL SALES OF \$5,000.

**CAMELLIAS**  
Sycamore, Mimosa, Carolina  
Sapphire, \$20; 1gal Azaleas,  
Tea Olives, Boxwood, \$5;  
3gal Azaleas, \$10  
FC Noles  
Barnwell  
803-383-4066

**MONKEY GRASS**  
aka Liriope, Hosta, \$4 ea; Iris,  
Daylily, \$5 ea; Hydrangea,  
Gardenia, \$10 ea  
Woody Ellenburg  
Pickens  
864-855-2565

**OAK TREES**  
5'T, \$10 ea  
Brian Gray  
Greenville  
864-908-9777

RABBITS

**FLEMISH GIANT**  
Red Back, Cottontail, Angora,  
Chinchilla, \$10-20 ea  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

**REX**  
all colors, yng, \$15 & \$20  
ea; grown bucks, \$15 ea; LA  
cottontails, grown bucks,  
\$15 ea; does, \$25 ea; yng, \$15 ea  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589

**LA COTTONTAIL CROSSED**  
on MS cane cutter, \$10 ea  
Danny Cook  
Newberry  
803-924-6953

**6 XL DOES**  
high producing breed for  
Easter bunnies, (20) 8 w/o  
bunnies, does, \$25; bunnies,  
\$7; more  
Jimmy Wells  
Anderson  
864-437-9608

**CHECKERED GIANT/  
NZ MIX**  
6 w/o, \$25 ea; mini rex, 5  
w/o, \$30; all friendly  
Kezia Fellows  
Aiken  
803-443-8572

**LA COTTONTAILS**  
\$10  
Duman Wicker  
Newberry  
803-537-7222

POULTRY

**RIR ROOS**  
\$9 ea; wht Leghorn hens, 8  
m/o, \$12 ea; Bantams, Wht  
Jap, Araucana, more, \$25/  
trio; more  
Joe Culbertson  
Greenwood  
864-229-5254

**BOB WHT QUAIL**  
flight ready, \$4.50 ea  
Jack McCaskill  
Kershaw  
803-427-3031

**DIAMOND DOVES**  
\$25 ea; wht Fantail pigeons &  
Red Chukar partridges, \$20 ea  
HT Austin  
Orangeburg  
803-308-1203

**STAGS**  
9 m/o Sweater, \$25; 11 m/o  
Sweater & 11 m/o Kelso/  
Sweater, \$75 ea; Sweater  
hens, \$15-25  
Russell Goings  
Union  
864-426-2309

**20 DOVES**  
4 diff colors, \$15 ea or \$225/  
all; 19 Muscovy ducks, 8 M,  
11 F, brn/wht, \$15/M, \$10/F,  
\$200/all; all grown  
Jimmy Wells  
Anderson  
864-437-9608

**GAME**  
Warhorse, Flarry Eye Greys,  
Hatch, Kelso, \$25+/hen;  
\$50+/100  
Philip Poole  
Union  
864-427-1589

**BOB WHT QUAIL**  
flight & weather cond,  
\$6.50 ea  
John Reed  
Sumter  
803-464-5757

**CHICKENS**  
Buff Orpingtons, Blk Austra-  
lorp, started laying 11/1, \$30 ea  
Robert Turner  
Orangeburg  
803-596-6463

**BOBWHITE QUAIL EGGS**  
50¢ ea; Bobwhite quail,  
flight cond, \$5 ea  
David Elliott  
Lexington  
803-445-1507

**6 BLUISH HOMERS**  
& Guinea trios, \$50; Mottled  
Bantam Cochins, \$15  
Thomas Waters  
Colleton  
843-696-6627

**COTURNIX QUAIL  
HATCHING EGGS**  
\$20/40 eggs; live chicks,  
\$2-5 ea  
Mark Hall  
Greenwood  
864-980-2019

**WHITE KINGS**  
\$15 ea  
William Claxton  
Colleton  
843-909-4285

SEED

ADS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A  
CURRENT SEED LAB TEST.

**SOYBEAN SEED**  
Glyphosate tolerant, w/  
no patent, cleaned in 50  
lb bags, G-93%, D H SD +  
G-93%, \$20/bag  
Jeffrey Gilmore  
Chesterfield  
843-517-0315

WANT - HAY

**RND BALES**  
for cows  
Wayne Krause  
Greenville  
864-385-4583

WANT - LIVESTOCK

EACH AD MUST LIST SPECIFIC ANIMALS.

**POULTRY**  
pigeons, & sm animals,  
reasonable priced  
William Claxton  
Colleton  
843-909-4285

**5-50 WHT HOMER  
SQUEAKER PIGEONS**  
& 3 new Hampshire red roos  
Thomas Waters  
Colleton  
843-696-6627

**SILVER SEBRIGHT  
CHICKENS**  
Tommy Axson  
Greenville  
864-350-1450

WANT - FARM EQUIPMENT

**MANURE SPREADER**  
ground or pto driven  
Harold Wright  
Cherokee  
864-838-4763

**RESTORED '53 SUPER M FA**  
Terry Silvers  
McCormick  
864-602-9467

**CREEP FEEDER W/ PNLS**  
for calves, cap 1-2 tons, in EC  
John Gossett  
Spartanburg  
803-222-7786

**LDR FOR 4440 JD TRACTOR**  
& D7G w/KG blade & root rake  
Scott Langston  
Oconee  
864-723-0125

**AM 282 9' DISC MWR**  
Salvage Krone, w/good slides  
Jeff Millen  
Chester  
803-209-0893

**2R JD 25B CORN PLNTRS**  
in WC or repairable  
Marion Mackey  
Lancaster  
803-416-7712

**BUSH HOG 2245-QT LDR**  
usable 60 or 66" bucket &  
Ford 1120 grill  
John Pieniadz  
Dorchester  
843-922-2158

**FERT SETUP**  
for JD 7000 plntrs; canopy  
& roll bar, for JD 3020;  
canopy for JD 4620  
Ashley Rowe  
Newberry  
803-940-0860

**FORKS**  
for Buhler/Allied 395 ldr  
David Julian  
Spartanburg  
864-979-3957

**5-7'W HD DISC**  
3ph or hyd lift, in GWC  
Mary Anderson  
Richland  
803-446-3326

**'73 INTL 3414 BACKHOE**  
CAV injection pump cam  
ring #3240F708 or 3240F538  
Dale Wilson  
Abbeville  
864-378-8327

WANT - MISCELLANEOUS

**USED GRNHS  
POLYCARBONATE PNLS**  
other nursery equip, folding  
collapsible crates, plastic  
storage crates  
Ben Hudson  
Union  
864-441-9240

**5V CRIMP TIN**  
any old farm equip or metal  
items  
David Wannamaker  
Calhoun  
803-682-2117

**OLDER AXES & HATCHETS**  
indiv or entire collectns, in  
any cond, cash paid  
Douglas Blackburn  
Out of State  
404-702-9581

**FIELDS OF LONG LEAF  
STRAW**  
for raking, top prices paid,  
American owned  
David Shull  
Lexington  
803-318-4263

**ELEC FUEL TANK PUMP**  
goes into 500 gal dsl tank  
Charles Nichols  
Saluda  
864-992-2753

**ANY SIZE WASH POTS**  
syrup kettle, anvils, lrg coffee  
grinder, old lighting rod w/  
balls & weathervane, more  
Perry Masters  
Greenville  
864-561-4792

**GREENHOUSE**  
George Barrett  
Out of State  
706-831-7436

**BLKSMITH ANVIL**  
any size farm bells & wash  
pots, & scalding pot  
R Long  
Newberry  
803-924-9039

**30" 4R PLNTR**  
JD 7000/7100  
Carson Wilkes  
Florence  
843-625-0515



# FLEXCOLD ESTABLISHING COLD STORAGE OPERATIONS IN DORCHESTER COUNTY

\$49.9 MILLION INVESTMENT WILL CREATE 59 NEW JOBS

BY SC DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## QUOTES

“We are thrilled to be expanding our footprint by establishing operations within a modern cold storage facility strategically located close to the Port of Charleston. We’re proud to further add to the economic development of the area in a meaningful and tangible way by helping meet the need to accommodate critical import and export business, specifically seafood.”  
—*FlexCold Co-Founder Jeff Manno*

“We are proud to announce another innovative cold storage chain locating in South Carolina. It’s companies such as FlexCold that will continue to enhance our supply chain by providing profound ideas and cutting-edge talent. We welcome FlexCold and look forward to the positive impact that they will make in the state and the Dorchester County community.”  
—*Gov. Henry McMaster*

“We welcome FlexCold to Dorchester County and celebrate the new opportunities that the company will create. South Carolina’s business-friendly climate, talented workforce and efficient infrastructure network make it the perfect location for FlexCold to establish new operations.”  
—*Secretary of Commerce Harry M. Lightsey III*

“SC Ports has significantly upgraded its refrigerated capabilities to efficiently handle more frozen and fresh products for the growing Southeast consumer base. FlexCold’s investment will complement these efforts and further enhance the cold chain in South Carolina. This innovative facility will expand the ability to move more frozen products, such as seafood, through the Port of Charleston.”  
—*SC Ports President and Chief Executive Officer Barbara Melvin*

“We are excited to welcome FlexCold as the newest company in North Charleston and Dorchester County, as we know the large capital investment and new job opportunities will certainly have a positive and lasting effect on our community. The city of North Charleston proudly commits to remain business-friendly and attentive to the needs of FlexCold and all our local industries.”  
—*City of North Charleston Mayor R. Keith Summey*

“Cold storage is a fast-growing segment of the logistics and distribution business at the Port of Charleston, and Dorchester County is excited to welcome FlexCold. It’s encouraging to see such a dynamic company establish operations in our community. We thank FlexCold for their investment and look forward to their success.”  
—*Dorchester County Council Chairman Stuart T. Friddle*

FlexCold, a leading cold storage warehousing and logistics company, announced plans to establish operations in Dorchester County. The company’s \$49.9 million investment will create 59 new jobs.

Headquartered in Charleston, FlexCold specializes in cold storage warehousing and logistics by providing customers with personalized cold storage expertise and targeting strategic locations that are advantageous to today’s evolving food supply chain. The company focuses on storing, handling, and distributing poultry, seafood, meat, packaged goods and frozen produce.

Located on Patriot Boulevard in North Charleston, the Dorchester County facility marks FlexCold’s first cold storage location in South Carolina and second facility in the United States. The new operations will include a highly modern, cold food storage facility to accommodate a diverse customer base with a focus on receiving a substantial amount of imported goods. Operationally, FlexCold will provide import and export services, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Food and Drug Administration inspections, labeling and repacking, and cross-docking services.

Operations are expected to be online by late summer 2024. Individuals interested in joining the FlexCold team should visit the company’s careers page, [flexcold.com/work-with-us/](https://flexcold.com/work-with-us/).

# USDA ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR DAIRY FARMERS

BY USDA

On Jan. 23, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the details of additional assistance for dairy producers, including a second round of payments through the Pandemic Market Volatility Assistance Program (PMVAP) and a new Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP). The update to PMVAP and the new ODMAP will enable USDA to better support small- and medium-sized dairy operations who weathered the pandemic and now face other challenges.

“The Biden-Harris administration continues to fulfill its commitments to fill gaps in pandemic assistance for producers. USDA is announcing a second set of payments of nearly \$100 million to close-out the \$350 million commitment under PMVAP through partnerships with dairy handlers and cooperatives to deliver the payments,” said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. “USDA is also announcing new assistance targeted to small to medium size organic dairy farmers to help with anticipated marketing costs as they face a variety of challenges from weather to supply-chain challenges.”

## PANDEMIC MARKET VOLATILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PMVAP assists producers who received a lower value due to market abnormalities caused by the pandemic and ensuing Federal policies. As a result of the production cap increase, USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will make PMVAP payments to eligible dairy farmers for fluid milk sales between 5 million and 9 million pounds from July through December 2020. This level of production was not eligible for payment

under the first round of the PMVAP. Payment rates will be identical to the first round of payments, 80 percent of the revenue difference per month, on fluid milk sales from 5 million to 9 million pounds from July through December 2020. USDA will again distribute monies through agreements with independent handlers and cooperatives, with reimbursement to handlers for allowed administrative costs. USDA will contact handlers with eligible producers to notify them of the opportunity to participate.

As part of the first round, PMVAP paid eligible dairy farmers on up to 5 million pounds of fluid milk sales from July through December 2020. The first round of payments distributed over \$250 million in payments to over 25,000 eligible dairy farmers. These dairy farmers received the full allowable reimbursement on fluid milk sales up to 5 million pounds.

More information about the PMVAP production cap increase is available at [ams.usda.gov/pmvap](https://ams.usda.gov/pmvap).

## ORGANIC DAIRY MARKETING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The new ODMAP, to be administered by USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA), is intended to help smaller organic dairy farms that have faced a unique set of challenges and higher costs over the past several years that have been compounded by the ongoing pandemic and drought conditions across the country. Many small organic dairy operations are now struggling to stay in business and FSA plans to provide payments to cover a portion of their estimated marketing costs for 2023. Final spending will depend on enrollment and each producers projected production, but ODMAP has

been allocated up to \$100 million.

The assistance provided by ODMAP will be provided through unused Commodity Credit Corporation funds remaining from earlier pandemic assistance programs. The assistance will help eligible organic dairy producers with up to 75 percent of their future projected marketing costs in 2023, based on national estimates of marketing costs. This assistance will be provided through a streamlined application process based on a national per hundredweight payment. The payments will be capped at the first five million pounds of anticipated production, in alignment with preexisting dairy programs that target assistance to those smaller dairies that are most vulnerable to marketing challenges. This program is still in development.

Details about the Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program will be available and updated at [farmers.gov](https://farmers.gov) as more details are released in a Notice of Funds Availability later this year.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy, and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [usda.gov](https://usda.gov).

# REMEMBER SOUTH CAROLINA'S STATE FORESTS AT TAX TIME

## HELP SUPPORT FOREST RECREATION AND OPERATIONS WITH A CHARITABLE CHECK-OFF ON YOUR RETURN

BY SC FORESTRY COMMISSION

The South Carolina Forestry Commission encourages citizens to make a charitable contribution to the SC State Forests Fund on their tax returns.

Taxpayers have the opportunity to support the five state forests – Harbison, Manchester, Poe Creek, Sand Hills, and Wee Tee – by making a check-off contribution on their state tax returns using Form I-330.

South Carolina's state forest system receives no state funding and relies solely on timber receipts, pine straw sales and recreational permit revenue for its operating funds. "Our five state forests are self-supporting, so any money we receive from the check-off program goes right back into these

forests and facilities, all for the benefit of the public," said James Douglas, SCFC State Lands Coordinator.

The State Forests Fund check-off program has raised more than \$210,847 in the 12 years since its inception, with all of the money used to make improvements and repairs that directly benefit visitors and enhance their experience on state forest lands. Your support is helping the state forests carry out their mission to be healthy, productive, forested ecosystems, improving the quality of life of South Carolina's citizens through the environmental, educational, economic, and recreational benefits of active forest management.

Not only do the state forests support themselves, but

they also provide funding to school systems in the counties that host them, giving more than \$1,276,853 to school districts in 11 counties last year alone.

### HOW TO GIVE TO THE SC STATE FORESTS FUND:

1. Enter the amount of your donation on Line 28 of your individual income tax form, S.C. Form 1040.
2. Then enter the amount of your donation on Line 15 of S.C. Tax Form I-330, then again on Line 19.
3. Attach S.C. Tax Form I-330 to your tax filing or give it to your professional tax preparer.

# SC PORTS HANDLES NEARLY 3 MILLION TEUS IN RECORD 2022

BY SC PORTS

South Carolina Ports had a record 2022 with the most containers ever handled at the Port of Charleston.

SC Ports moved nearly 2.8 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) in 2022, a 1.5% increase over 2021. When accounting for containers of any size, SC Ports moved more than 1.5 million pier containers in 2022, a 1% increase from 2021.

"South Carolina's excellent port team and maritime community efficiently handled record cargo volumes and expertly navigated supply chain challenges to keep freight moving for our customers," SC Ports President and CEO Barbara Melvin said.

With the resumption of cruises, SC Ports had 261,636 cruise passengers come through the Passenger Terminal last year.

SC Ports moved 199,343 vehicles across the docks of Columbus Street Terminal in 2022, further connecting South Carolina's automakers with global consumers.

Inland Port Greer and Inland Port Dillon handled a combined 167,147 rail moves in 2022, enabling more companies throughout the Southeast to quickly move goods to and from the port via rail.

"South Carolina Ports serves as South Carolina's gateway to the world, giving companies direct access to global markets," Melvin said. "We proudly move goods for advanced manufacturers, retailers, farmers, medical providers, grocery stores, solar panel producers and small businesses, helping to support 225,000 jobs in South Carolina."

### BOOMING BUSINESS IN SC

South Carolina's economy is booming as companies make big investments to expand operations and open new facilities to take advantage of the state's strong business climate, excellent workforce, expansive infrastructure network and world-class port.

"South Carolina's booming economy is breaking records left and right because of the communication, collaboration and cooperation among our unmatched strategic assets, including the South Carolina Ports Authority," South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster said. "Our ports' success creates prosperity, growth and opportunity for South Carolinians, which means

today's announcement is a sign of more good things to come."

In 2022, the South Carolina Department of Commerce secured more than \$10 billion in total capital investment from companies establishing or expanding operations in South Carolina. This record investment amount represents 120 projects and more than 14,000 announced new jobs.

"South Carolina is experiencing unprecedented economic development growth as domestic and international companies, alike, recognize the long-term potential within our borders," Secretary of Commerce Harry M. Lightsey III. "The South Carolina Department of Commerce is proud to collaborate with allied partners and state leadership to prioritize strategic infrastructure investments that help existing and future industry realize that success and maximize efficiencies while creating opportunities for all South Carolinians."

Many of these economic development wins are port-dependent businesses that rely on SC Ports to import goods for production and export products for overseas consumption.

"Major business announcements and expansions are happening in South Carolina, and we have strategically invested in critical port infrastructure to support the growth occurring today and into the future," SC Ports Board Chairman Bill Stern said.

### STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE IN SC

With great support from the state, SC Ports has invested more than \$2 billion into port infrastructure in recent years to support the state's booming business sector. Combined with port funding and state funding, SC Ports plans to spend an additional \$2.5 billion over the next decade.

Investments thus far have yielded modernized container terminals with ample capacity, the deepest harbor on the East Coast at 52 feet and a strong rail-served inland port network.

Construction is now underway on SC Ports' Navy Base Intermodal Facility, a modern cargo yard in North Charleston that will be rail-served by CSX, Norfolk Southern and Palmetto Railways. Creating near-dock rail at the Port of Charleston will make South Carolina more competitive as an import gateway to the United States.

SC Ports is also developing an inner-harbor barge operation to support the Navy Base Intermodal Facility; it will transport cargo between container terminals via water.

The SC Legislature and Governor Henry McMaster allocated \$550 million to build the rail yard and barge operation.

"With critical support from our state leaders, SC Ports is boldly investing in port infrastructure to ensure port-dependent businesses can thrive in South Carolina," Melvin said.

Beyond the port, containers need to move fluidly on highways to reach their destinations — whether that may be a rail yard, manufacturing facility, import distribution center, retail store or a resident's doorstep.

Critical infrastructure investments are happening around the state to support the state's supply chains. The South Carolina Department of Transportation has significantly increased investments to the state's transportation network, spending nearly \$4 billion in construction contracts in 2022.

"We know how important it is to our thriving economy to ensure that goods can move efficiently across the state and region," SC Department of Transportation Secretary Christy Hall. "With the support of the Governor and the General Assembly, the South Carolina Department of Transportation has made unprecedented investment in our state's infrastructure system since 2017. This work includes more than 100 miles of interstate work either complete or underway, improving our critical freight corridors and making good on our promises to the people of South Carolina."





# CLEMSON UNITES WITH FFAR TO TACKLE PEANUT ALLERGIES

BY DENISE ATTAWAY, CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Peanuts are an affordable source of important nutrients but contain protein allergens that can harm some people.

Sachin Rustgi, a molecular breeder at the Clemson University Pee Dee Research and Education Center near Florence, South Carolina, is leading a study funded by the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) to learn ways to make peanuts less allergenic by reducing the amount of common allergy-causing proteins and increasing the amount of healthy oil (high-oleic) in peanut seeds.

The project focuses on developing peanut genetics with reduced allergen content and an enhanced amount of healthy fat using both conventional breeding techniques and CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) gene-editing technology. The researchers aim to make more allergy management and oral immunotherapy available for individuals sensitive to peanut allergens.

“New lines developed from this research will benefit people who are sensitive to peanuts,” said Rustgi, principal investigator in the research. “In addition, availability of peanut lines with reduced allergen content will alleviate the need to create and maintain a peanut-free environment and thus could reduce costs associated with managing peanut allergies.”

Much of the research is conducted in the Rustgi Lab, part of Clemson’s Advanced Plant Technology Program housed at the Pee Dee REC. In addition to using conventional breeding methods and CRISPR-Cpfi gene-editing technology, the researchers also are using sophisticated biochemical and immunological evaluation methods to develop new peanut genotypes that are less allergenic and high in oleic fatty acid.

Other researchers involved in the project are: Sruthi Narayanan, a Clemson University crop ecophysiology; Jeff Dunne and Ryan Andres, peanut breeders with North Carolina State University; Edwin Kim and Mike Kulis, immunologists with the University of North Carolina; and Shyamalrau Tallury, plant geneticist with the United States Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service.

In addition to being less allergenic and containing higher levels of healthy fat, these new peanut lines

are expected to exhibit long shelf-life and tolerance to heat stress, benefiting growers, producers and consumers. Rustgi said the new genotypes will create a healthy choice for farmers in low-income countries who farm for sustenance and don’t have the option to grow other crops.

The researchers are working with producer-driven commodity boards including the South Carolina Peanut Board and the National Peanut Board. The reduced-immunogenicity, high-oleic peanut genotypes and resources developed during this



project will be available free to public peanut breeding programs in the United States and abroad. This project is expected to continue through 2025.

Saharah Moon Chapotin, FFAR executive director, said this research offers hope for a solution to peanut allergy.

“Current remedies for peanut allergy target the human response to the allergens, not the peanut allergens themselves,” Chapotin said.

## PEANUT ALLERGY KNOWLEDGE

Peanuts are an affordable source of proteins, health-promoting fatty acids, antioxidants, vitamins and minerals. However, peanuts also are among the eight primary sources of food allergies recognized by the United States Food and Drug Administration and, along with tree nuts, are responsible for 90% of allergy-related fatalities.

Studies show peanut allergies affect about 9.6 million children and adults in the United States. During the past two decades, peanut allergy diagnoses rose from 0.4% in 1997 to 2.9% in 2021. Experts say this number is escalating. Raw peanuts and derived products lead to various allergic responses, the most common being immediate-onset anaphylaxis.

Sixteen proteins in peanut kernels have been identified as allergens. Among them, four proteins are classified as major allergens.

In addition to bearing proteins, the peanut is a primary oil source. Peanut oil comprises 20% saturated fatty acids, which have been associated with increased serum low-density lipoprotein cholesterol levels and the incidence of cardiovascular disease (CVD).

The United States is the fifth-largest peanut producer in the world. Besides being locally consumed, a large proportion (499,685 metric tons in 2021) of peanuts is annually exported to Canada, Mexico and European Union countries. Unfortunately, these countries also reported a high peanut allergy and CVD prevalence.

Peanut allergy currently requires the complete exclusion of peanuts from a person’s diet. However, avoiding peanuts, other cross-reacting tree nuts and legumes limits individuals’ options to obtain vegetable proteins. Also, totally

avoiding peanuts is not achievable because of the presence of peanut in processed foods and unintended contamination. Given peanuts’ economic and nutritional importance, the researchers say it is worth correcting associated health concerns.

In addition to peanut, Rustgi and his team also are testing many varieties of wheat to find ones naturally less immunogenic than others. Their hope is these low-immunogenicity varieties can be bred with crop varieties that have desirable traits, such as high yields or pest resistance. The goal is to develop reduced-gluten varieties that can be commercially grown.

Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) builds public-private partnerships to fund bold research addressing big food and agriculture challenges. FFAR was established in the 2014 Farm Bill to increase public agriculture research investments, fill knowledge gaps and complement USDA’s research agenda. FFAR’s model matches federal funding from Congress with private funding, delivering a powerful return on taxpayer investment. Through collaboration and partnerships, FFAR advances actionable science benefiting farmers, consumers and the environment.

# IT’S ALL ABOUT HERBS FESTIVAL SET FOR MARCH 25

BY THE HERB BUNCH

Join the Lexington County Herb Bunch in cooperation with Clemson Cooperative Extension for its 11th annual "It's All About Herbs" Festival on Saturday, March 25 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Lexington County Museum, 231 Fox Street in Lexington.

The family-friendly event is free for all. There will be a wide selection of herbs and gardening-related items for sale, plus local vendors and a bake sale.

The majority of proceeds will go toward a scholarship to a qualified student from Lexington

County to further his or her education in the horticulture, agriculture or nutrition field.

Find The Herb Bunch on Facebook for more information.